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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/804,323	03/19/2004	Eiji Nitto	2803.70118	7326
24978	7590	06/28/2005	EXAMINER	
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN 300 S WACKER DR 25TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60606			NGO, HUYEN LE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2871	

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/804,323	<b>Applicant(s)</b> NITTO ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Julie-Huyen L. Ngo	<b>Art Unit</b> 2871	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 March 2004.  
 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.  
 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:  
         1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
         2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
         3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
     \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/19/2004</u>   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Priority***

Receipt is acknowledged of paper submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which paper has been placed of record in the file.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

The information disclosure statement filed March 19, 2004 has been considered.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-9 and 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yun et al. (US5835139A).

With respect to claims 1 and 7-8, Yun et al. teach (Figs. 6-9) forming a liquid crystal display device comprising:

- a liquid crystal panel 300;
- a light guiding plate 130 for illuminating the liquid crystal panel;
- a bezel (the first support frame 190) covering a periphery of the liquid crystal panel;

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- a frame (the second support frame 400) on which the liquid crystal panel is mounted;

Claim 8:

- a screw 430 connecting a side wall of the bezel to the frame; and a screw being a fixing member securing a portion of the rear cover and a side wall of the bezel together, wherein the fixing member is arranged on an axis substantially passing through the screw, as viewed from a direction orthogonal to the liquid crystal panel
- a rear cover (rear case 500) having a portion which extends from a back side of the light guiding plate beyond a position of the screw and which has a hole through which said screw passes.

wherein

Claims 2 and 9:

- the frame has a threaded hole (screw hole 410a-c) in which the screw is engaged.

Claims 3 and 12:

- the frame surrounds the light guiding plate as shown in Figs 6-7

Claims 4 and 14:

- the frame has a positioning means for positioning the liquid crystal panel.

Claim 5:

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- said portion of the rear cover extends to a front surface of the bezel and the bezel has a hole in which said portion of the rear cover can be fitted.

Claims 6 and 15:

- a control circuit board as shown in Fig 6 connected to the liquid crystal panel is arranged between the side wall of the bezel and the frame.

Claim 11:

- the fixing member has a first portion extending along the side surface of the frame and a second portion extending along the side surface of the bezel, said first portion being provided with a threaded hole 410a to be engaged with the screw, said second portion being provided with a hole 410b in which the screw is inserted, the screw being engaged in a threaded hole of the frame and the threaded hole of the first portion of the supporting member, through the hole of the second portion of the fixing member and the hole of the side wall of the bezel.

Claim 13:

- a light source 110 and a reflector 140 are provided on the side of the light guiding plate.

Claims 7, 10, 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Okamoto et al. (US2001/0050732).

With respect to claim 7, Okamoto et al. teaches (Figs. 3-4) forming a liquid crystal display device comprising:

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- a liquid crystal panel 12;
- a light guiding plate 28 for illuminating the liquid crystal panel;
- a bezel 22 covering a periphery of the liquid crystal panel;
- a frame 20 on which the liquid crystal panel is mounted;
- a screw 26 connecting a side wall of the bezel to the frame;
- a rear cover 20 provided on a rear surface of the light guiding plate;
- a fixing member 24 securing a portion of the rear cover and a side wall of the bezel together.

wherein

Claim 10:

- the fixing member is made of an elastically deformable clip (paragraph 40).

Claim 12:

- the frame surrounds the light guiding plate.

Claim 14:

- the frame has a positioning means for positioning the liquid crystal panel.

***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Jung (US 6421231 B1) discloses a liquid crystal panel 530 including a display part 534 and support frame 532 surrounding the display part 534. The display part 534 is exposed through an opening 512 of the front case 510. The rear case 520 and the

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liquid crystal display panel 530 are joined to each other by fastening devices such as screws 540 through the rear screw holes and the panel screw holes.

Kim et al. (US 6456343 B2) disclose a liquid crystal display that resists idling of a nut used for fixing a liquid crystal module in a main supporter. In the liquid crystal display a main supporter holds a backlight unit and a liquid crystal display panel. A top case encloses edges of the liquid crystal display panel and the main supporter. An inserting nut is pressed into a cross-shaped hole in the top case.

Sakamoto et al. (US 6480245 B1) disclose a LCD in which lamp reflector is grounded to panel housing via screw, pinch fastening, or snap pressing means

#### ***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Julie-Huyen L. Ngo whose telephone number is (571) 272-2295. The Examiner can normally be reached on T-Friday.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Mr. Robert H. Kim can be reached at (571) 272-2293.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1562.



***Julie-Huyen L. Ngo***  
**Primary Examiner**  
Art Unit 2871

June 25, 2005